UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/851,224	05/08/2001	Eric N. Bush	MS160299.1	3160

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EXAMINER
THAI, CUONG T

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/851,224	Applicant(s) BUSH, ERIC N.
	Examiner CUONG T THAI	Art Unit 2173

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sh et with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-4 and 7-23_ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) _5 and 6_ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _2_ .	6) ☐ Other:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTO-326 (Rev. 04-01)   Office Action Summary   Part of Paper No. 3

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-23 are presented for examination.

2.   The Information Disclosure Statement filed on May/08/2001 have been received and

fully considered.

Specification

3.   The Appendix A is objected to because it is too long. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly point out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5.   Claims 1, 5, 12-13, 15, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as

being indefinite for failings to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, line 2, "at least one of said attributes" should be "at least one of said plurality of

attributes" to maintain consistency with line 1 of claim 1; claim 1, line 3, "said objects" should

be "said one or more objects" to maintain consistency with lines 1-2 of claim 1; claim 1, line 5,

"at least one of said attribute values" should be " at least one of said plurality of attribute values"

to maintain consistency with line 4 of claim 1; claim 1, line 8, "displaying the attribute values"

should be "displaying the plurality of attribute values" to maintain consistency with line 4 of

claim 1.

Claim 1, lines 7-8, phrase "the user interface attribute value" does not give proper antecedent to the "at least one of said attributes" and "at least one of said attribute values" previously recited in the claim.

Claim 5, line 3 "wherein the specific user interface" should be "wherein each of the specific user interface" to maintain consistency with "identifying specific user interfaces".

Claim 12, line 3, phrase "and/or" in claim is indefinite. Correction is required.

Claim 13 is objected to for being in improper dependent form. The claim is written in the form of a preamble made to depend on another claim. The stated preamble is not given patentable weight as it fails to breathe life, meaning, and vitality into the claims. As such, the claim fail to further limit the subject matter of the claim 1 upon which they depend. See MPEP §§ 608.01 (n) and 2111.02.

Claim 15, line 1, "each user interface" should be " the user interface" to maintain consistency with line 7 of claim 14.

Claim 21, line 4, "said objects each having" should be " said one or more objects each having" to maintain consistency with line 3 of claim 21; claim 21, line 5, " at least one of said attribute values" should be " at least one of said plurality of attribute values" to maintain consistency with lines 4-5 of claim 21.

Claim 22, line 2, "wherein each user interface" should be " wherein the user interface" to

maintain consistency with line 4 of claim 21.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patent ability shall not be negative by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 1-4, 7-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chow et

al. (USPN: 6,038,395) hereinafter Chow in view of Fults et al. (USPN: 5,327,529) hereinafter

Fults.

As per claims 1 (method), 13 (readable medium), 14 (readable medium), 18 (readable

medium), and 21 (system); Chow discloses a method of displaying data comprising:

Defining a plurality of attributes of a class of data is taught by Chow as the technique of

each proxy object has associated therewith several items of information, including a class of the

target object corresponding to the proxy object, presentation information, properties and how

they are mapped to IDL attributes and operations, events available on the target object, and

operations supported by the target object (see col. 7, lines 5-11), said data including one or more

objects is taught by Chow as the technique of an object model-based visual builder is provided

which includes proxy objects (see col. 7, lines 3-4), wherein each object is an instance of the

class is taught by Chow as the technique of the class of the target object corresponding to the

proxy object (see col. 14, lines 50-51);

Chow, however, does not disclose the limitations of at least one of said attributes representing a user interface, said objects each having a plurality of attributes values corresponding to the attributes of the class, at least one of said plurality of attribute values being associated with the user interface attribute of the class, accessing the user interface value of each object, and displaying the attributes values of the object.

Fults discloses the limitations of at least one of said attributes representing a user interface as the technique of Specific interface design for particular UI (user interface) (object with attributes (see Fig. 1), said objects each having a plurality of attributes values corresponding to the attributes of the class is taught by Fults as the technique of the guide for the specific interface description in the form of user interface objects with attributes for the application (see col. 3, lines 10-13), at least one of said plurality of attribute values being associated with the user interface attribute of the class is taught by Fults as the technique of attributes define the behavior and/or appearance of a UI object in a very specific manner: an attribute is either on or off, and there is a definite set of attributes associated with every UI object class (see col. 18, lines 28-31), accessing the user interface value of each object is taught by Fults as the technique of setting the modal attribute for a dialog box ensures that the user must respond to it before continuing (see col. 18, lines 35-37), and displaying the attributes values of the object is taught by Fults as the technique of to create a specific interface description, typically in the form of user interface objects with attributes for the application. The graphical user interface system software then implements this specific description, creating an on-screen representation (see col. 3, lines 11-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to combine Fults' teachings of one of said attributes representing a user

interface, said objects each having a plurality of attributes values corresponding to the attributes

of the class, at least one of said plurality of attribute values being associated with the user

interface attribute of the class, accessing the user interface value of each object, and displaying

the attributes values of the object into Chow's teaching of class' object attribute. Thus, the

system would be enhanced by providing specific needs for particular application development.

As per claim 2, Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow,

however, does not disclose the limitation of wherein the user interface identified by the accessed

user interface attribute value.

Fults discloses the limitation of wherein the user interface identified by the accessed user

interface attribute value as the technique of attributes define the behavior and/or appearance of

UI object in every specific manner: an attribute is either on or off, and there is a defined set of

attributes associated with every UI object class (see col. 18, lines 28-31).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of wherein the user interface identified by the

accessed user interface attribute value into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system

would be enhanced by allowing user to access a particular user interface of multiple user

interfaces based on its attribute value.

As per claims 3 (method), 17 (readable medium), and 20 (readable medium); Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow, however, does not disclose the limitation of permitting a user to modify the attribute values via the interface.

Fults discloses the limitation of permitting a user to modify the attribute values via the interface as the technique of once the application has specified a particular generic user interface object, a selected SUII (Specific User-Interface-Interpreters) uses the specific object and instance data for that object to interpret the manner in which the specified object is to be presented. In particular, the selected SUII selects gadgets from a corresponding SUITC (Specific UI Toolbox and Controllers) and arrange the gadgets in accordance with attributes and hints in the instance data for the specified object (see col. 25, lines 11-18) and GenRange, allows the user to interactively set a values within a discrete range of values (see col. 17, lines 53-54).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of permitting a user to modify the attribute values via the interface into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user to modified and arranged attributes values of specific gadget objects based on user desired task. Thus, the system would provide more tools to an end user.

As per claim 4, Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow, however, does not disclose the limitation of displaying includes modifying the attribute values of the object.

Fules discloses the limitation of displaying includes modifying the attribute values of the object as the technique of once the application has specified a particular generic user interface

object, a selected SUII (Specific User Interface Interpreters) uses the specific object and instance data for that object to interpret the manner in which the specified object is to be presented. In particular, the selected SUII selects gadgets from a corresponding SUITC (Specific UI Toolbox and Controllers) and arrange the gadgets in accordance with attributes and hints in the instance data for the specified object. Each application can have different GUIS associated with it. Thus while the two application might specify the same generic UI object, the different GUISs associated with different Applications can result in different representations (visual and behavioral). This because different GUISs can have different instance data (see col. 25, lines 11-25).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of displaying includes modifying the attribute values of the object into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user to modified, arranged attributes values of specific gadget objects, and displaying different GUIS with different modified attribute data on screen based upon user requirement task.

As per claims 7 (method), 15 (readable medium), 16 (readable medium), and 22 (system),

Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow, however, does not disclose the limitation of each user interface value is a global unique identifier.

Fults discloses the limitation of each user interface value is a global unique identifier as the technique of firstly the application developer defines his program's user interface using UI objects with special properties that allows him to express the user interface needs for his

application (see col. 16, lines 6-9). This interpretation is done at runtime, the user may switch

specific user interfaces (e.g., Motif to Openlook) at anytime (see col. 16, lines 14-16).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of each user interface value is a global unique

identifier into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing

user to make selection and switch from one user interface to another based on its unique

identifier property. Thus, the system would provide easily point-to-click selection tool to an end

user.

As per claim 8, Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow,

however, does not disclose the limitation of wherein the data is stored via a monitoring

application.

Fults discloses the limitation of as the technique of using Save option under File drop

down menu (see Fig. 15).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of the data is stored (save) via a monitoring

application into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by

providing easy selection tool to an end user.

As per claims 9 (method), Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above.

Chow, however, does not disclose the limitation of wherein the data is stored in the database.

Fults discloses the limitation of wherein the data is stored in the database as the technique

of the final interface design is then stored in data structures (see col. 3, lines 47-48).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of wherein the data is stored in the database structures into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing system's essential information for later use.

As per claim 10, the limitation of wherein the data represents events in a computer is taught by Chow as the technique of each proxy object has associated therewith several items of information, including a class of the target object corresponding to the proxy object, presentation information, properties and how they are mapped to IDL attributes and operations, events available on the target object, and operations supported by the target object (see col. 7, lines 5-11 and see Fig. 7). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 11, Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow, however, does not disclose the limitation of wherein the data indicates performance of one or more application programs.

Fults discloses the limitation of wherein the data indicates performance of one or more application programs as the technique of generating user interfaces for application programs (see col. 3, lines 26-27).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Fults' teaching of wherein the data indicates performance of one or more application programs into that of Chow's invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user to perform task on a system, which capable of allowing user

performing multiple application programs with its own interfaces. Thus, the system would

provide more intuitive tools to an end user.

As per claim 23, due to the similarity of this claim to the combination of claims 9 and 11,

this claim is therefore rejected for the same reasons applied to claims 9 and 11.

As per claim 19, Chow discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Chow,

however, does not discloses the limitations of wherein the component includes one or more user

interfaces, and wherein the user interface attribute value of a particular objects specifies one of

the said one or more user interfaces to display the attribute values of the particular object.

Fults discloses the limitations of wherein the component includes one or more user

interfaces as the technique of application interface design for specific interface design for

particular user interface (see Fig. 1) and generating user interfaces for application programs (see

col. 3, lines 26-27), and wherein the user interface attribute value of a particular objects specifies

one of the said one or more user interfaces to display the attribute values of the particular object

is taught by Fults as the technique of setting the modal attribute for a dialog box ensures that the

user must respond to it before continuing (see col. 18, lines 35-37) and to create a specific

interface description, typically in the form of user interface objects with attributes for the

application. The graphical user interface system software then implements this specific

description, creating an on-screen representation (see col. 3, lines 11-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to combine Fults' teachings of wherein the component includes one or

more user interfaces, and wherein the user interface attribute value of a particular objects

specifies one of the said one or more user interfaces to display the attribute values of the

particular object into that of Chow's invention. Thus, the system would be enhanced by capable

of providing one or more user interfaces to an end user and based upon selection of user

interface's attribute, the system directs user to selected objects interface. The system, thus, would

provide better-tools-for application loading to the end user.

As per claim 12, Chow discloses the limitation of wherein the data includes statistics

relating to one or more the following: hypertext transfer protocol communications; Internet

control message protocol; services; events; processes; and/or transmission protocol/ Internet

protocol communications as the technique of a class of the target object corresponding to the

proxy object, presentation information, properties and how they are mapped to IDL attributes

and operations, events available on the target object, and operations supported by the target

object (see col. 7, lines 7-11 and see Fig. 7). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set

forth above.

Allowable Subject Matter

8.   Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be

allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and

any intervening claims. Claim 6 is further limits of objected claim 5.

9.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Examiner has carefully considered claim 5 of the presented application. None of the cited

art including Lunt (USPN: 6,543,046), Chow et al. (USPN: 6,038,395), Mital et al. (6,189,012),

Alimplich et al. (USPN: 5,982,367), Goddard et al. (USPN: 5,867,157), Alimpich et al. (USPN:

5,818,444), nor Fults et al. (5,327,529) discloses, suggest, nor teaches a method of displaying

data further comprising **comparing the user interface attribute value of each object against a**

predefined list of values, said predefined list of values identifying specific user interface,

wherein each of the specific user interface associated with the user interface attribute value of

each object displays the attribute values of each object. Fults is cited for the user interface

attribute value and compare the conventional way of simple user interface to the GEOS way.

Alimpich (USPN: 5,982,367) is cited for step of construct a list from predefined and user-defined

printer values. Neither of them discloses nor suggests **comparing the user interface attribute**

value of each object against a predefined list of values, said predefined list of values

identifying specific user interface, wherein each of the specific user interface associated with the

user interface attribute value of each object displays the attribute values of each object.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance.".

Conclusion

10.   The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered

pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.111(c) to consider

these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the

method for allowing user to select and to display a particular class of an object based on its

specified attribute prior requiring the system to display specific user interface.

11.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to CUONG T THAI whose telephone number is (703) 308-7234.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached at (703) 308-3116. The fax numbers for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:
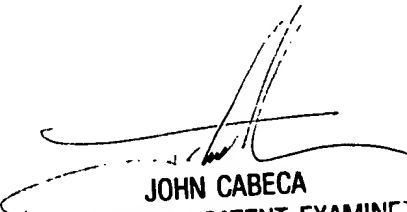
(703) 746-7238 (After Final Communication)

(703) 872-9306 (Official Communication)

(703) 746-7240 (For status inquiries, Draft Communication)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8000.

CUONG T THAI
Examiner
Art Unit 2173

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November 3, 2003

JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINr
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 21